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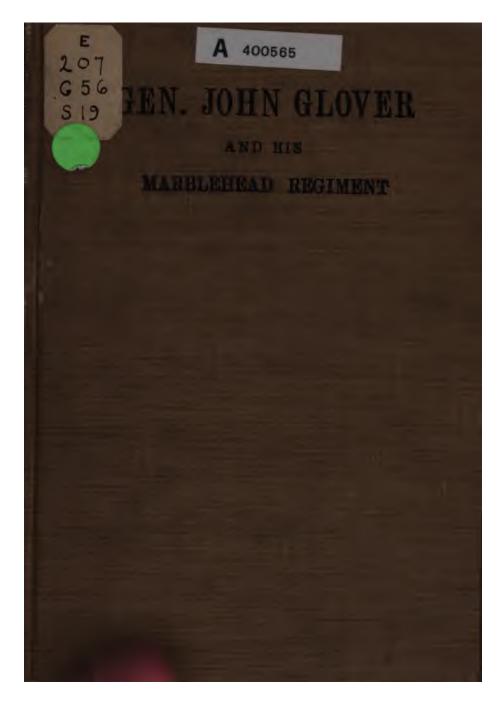
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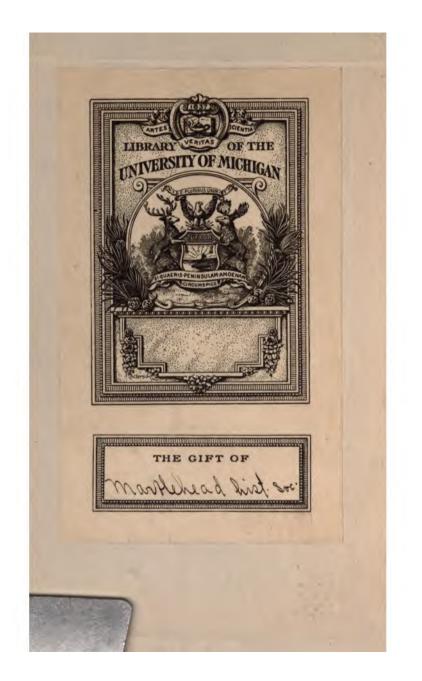
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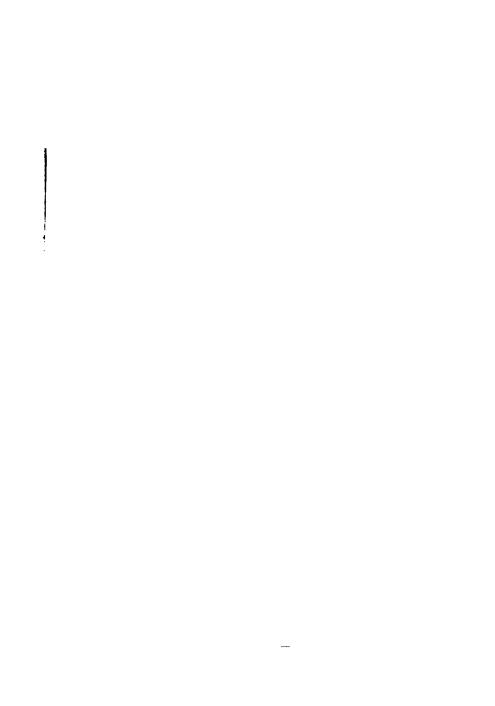
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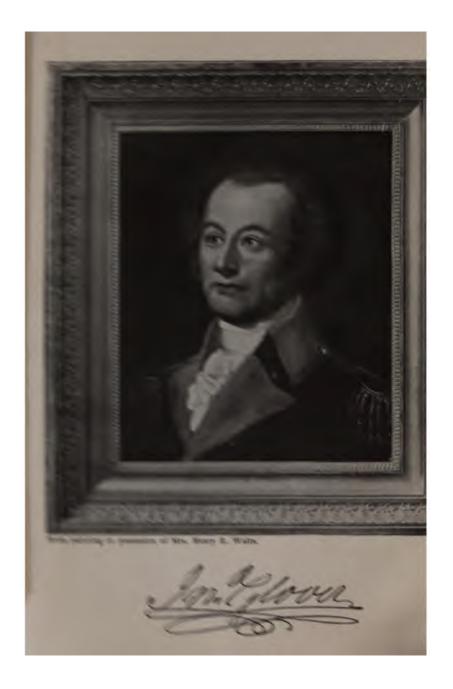
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# GEN. JOHN GLOVER

#### AND HIS

## MARBLEHEAD REGIMENT

## IN THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR

#### A PAPER READ BEFORE THE

## MARBLEHEAD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

#### MAY 14, 1903

BY NATHAN P. SANBORN

PRESIDENT OF THE SOCIETY

PUBLISHED BY THE SOCIETY 1903

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### PREFACE.

In Marblehead for thirty years, and more, after the Revolutionary War, the familiar forms of the veterans of that hard and long continued struggle were seen walking back and forth at the heads of the wharves, on Irving's Hill, or at the street corners, and the story they told of battles fought, of marches and of camp life was as familiar, throughout the town, to old and young, as any household words. But it was so evenly matched with the scenes of every day life, the hazards and storms at sea, of spars carried away and anchors lost and the vessel on beam-ends, of sailing to the Banks and never returning, that the two stories blended into one, and each life as a whole was a life of adventure, toil and danger; and rarely was a careful record made of passing events; so that many a story of real life, more thrilling than that of any fiction, has been forgotten and lost. When, about two years ago the Bronx Chapter of The Daughters of the American Revolution of Mount Vernon, N. Y., placed a bronze tablet on "Glover's Rock," many asked: "Where is Glover's Rock? and what does it mean?" and were surprised to learn that it marked the spot where General Glover met the enemy, more than five times his number, and fought one of the most skilful and successful battles of the war. This aroused a long cherished wish of the author to follow General Glover and his regiment through the war of the Revolu-Under that inspiration the following tion. paper was prepared and presented to the Marblehead Historical Society, May 14, 1903.

"Glover's Rock," which in its vicinity has been known by that name since the days of the Revolution, is a great rock or boulder by the side of the road from Pelham to Pell's Point. City Island is off the Point. The city of New York has recently acquired this whole territory of twenty-three hundred acres, in the midst of which is "Glover's Rock," and set it apart as a public park to be known as Pelham Bay Park.

The road over which the British troops marched and in which Glover met them and fought the battle of Pell's Point is still the highway from Pelham to the Point; and the stone wall, behind which he placed Read, Shepard and Baldwin, remained until a few years ago, when the road was macadamized. The stones were taken, broken and crushed to make the "macadam," and when the street railway was built several cannon balls were dug from the earth near Glover's Rock.

June, 1903.

## Gen. John Glover and his Marblehead Regiment in the Revolutionary War.

Charles Glover came from England to Salem in 1630. John Glover, who was born in Salem, and married Mary Guppy of Salem, January 2, 1660, is supposed to be the son of the immigrant Charles.

Jonathan, son of John, was born April, 1677, and married Abigail Henderson, March 31, 1697.

Jonathan, Jr., son of Jonathan, was born December 4, 1702, and married Tabitha Bacon, February 23, 1727.

The children of Jonathan, Jr., were:

Jonathan, born June 13, 1731, married Abigail Burnham of Marblehead, October 10, 1748, and was a hatter by trade.

Samuel, born June 13, 1731, married Mary Andrews of Marblehead, August 20, 1751, and was a goldsmith by trade.

John, born November 5, 1732, married

first, Hannah Gale, October 30, 1754, second, Mrs. Frances Fosdick, both of Marblehead, and was by trade a shoemaker. (Hannah Gale was born in Marblehead, June, 1733, died November 13, 1778.)

Daniel, was born January, 1734, married Hannah Jillings of Newbury, December 1, 1757, and was a blockmaker by trade.

The following were the eleven children of John and Hannah Glover, all born in Marblehead:

- 1st. John, born March 23, 1756. Married Fanny Lee, one child, Fanny.
- 2d. Hannah, born May 15, 1757. Died in infancy.
- 3d. Daniel, born April 8, 1759. Died in infancy.
- 4th. Hannah, born April 19, 1761. Married Richard Cowell, seven children.
- 5th. Samuel, born December 19, 1762. Married 1st, Martha Bowden, 2d, Betsy Skillins, three children.
- 6th. Jonas, born April 1, 1764. Married Sally Pierce, two children.
- 7th. Tabitha, born December 8, 1765. Married William Brooks of Exeter.

- 8th. Susannah, born March 28, 1767. Married Capt. Nicholas Broughton, five children.
- 9th. Mary, born January 8, 1769. Married December 11, 1788, Robert Hooper, born February 3, 1766, thirteen children.
- 10th. Sarah, born February 10, 1771. Married Samuel Lewis, one child.
- 11th. Jonathan, born May 9, 1773. Died unmarried.

General John Glover with his three brothers, Jonathan, Samuel and Daniel, removed from Salem to Marblehead when young and soon became engaged in the various trades that they had previously learned.

John did not find the shoemaker's bench and the last quite to his taste, while the fish-flakes, the warehouse and the wharf presented stronger attractions, promised larger returns and more nearly met his ambition.

He soon entered the fishing business, and pursued it with tact and energy. His market was largely in France, Spain and the West Indies, and this led him to engage in other mercantile pursuits. He was sagacious, energetic and successful.

At the outbreak of the Revolution he was forty-three years old, and for the times in which he lived he had accumulated quite a fortune.

Stryker, page 134, says : "Glover owned a number of vessels, and before the war was extensively engaged in the fishing trade. He was an active and good soldier."

Dr. Loring before the Columbian Society, January 8, 1856, said: "He was active, modest and industrious, the friend of Washington, the truest friend of freedom, the hero of Trenton." For many years he had been elected to offices of honor and trust and had served his fellow citizens in many ways.

The military spirit had always been strong in Marblehead. As early as 1758 a full militia regiment of a thousand men was maintained in this town, then the second in the colony of Massachusetts in point of wealth and importance.

When John Glover was elected Colonel of the Marblehead Regiment, he was not a novice in the military service, for he had held

the following commissions, the originals of which are said to be still in possession of his descendants: "Ensign in the third military foot company in the town of Marblehead, under the command of Richard Reed, Esq.; in the fifth regiment of militia in the County of Essex, whereof Jacob Fowle, Esq., is Colonel," and is dated March 12, 1759, and signed Thomas Pownall, Governor.

His second commission was as "Captain Lieutenant in the military company of foot in Marblehead, under the command of Azor Orne, Esq., in the regiment of militia in the County of Essex, whereof Jacob Fowle, Esq., is Colonel." Dated February 12, 1762, signed by Francis Bernard, Governor.

Third, as "Captain of a military company of foot in the town of Marblehead in the regiment of militia in the County of Essex, whereof John Gallison, Esq., is Colonel." Dated February 8, 1773, signed by Thomas Hutchinson, Governor.

About May 22, 1775, the Marblehead Regiment was transferred from the militia which was in the service of King George, to the continental service, and at that time officered as follows:

10

Colonel—John Glover.

Lieutenant-Colonel—John Gerry.

Major-Gabriel Johonnot.

Adjutant-William Gibbs.

Captains—William R. Lee, William Courtis, William Bacon, Thomas Grant, Joel Smith, Nicholson Broughton, William Blackler, John Merritt, John Selman, Francis Symonds.

Lieutenants—John Glover, Robert Harris, William Mills, William Bubier, John Bray, John Stacy, Nathaniel Clark, Joshua Prentice, Isaac Collyer, William Russell.

Ensigns-Edward Archbold, Thomas Courtis, Seward Lee, Ebenezer Graves, Joshua Orne, J. Deveraux, Jr., Nathaniel Pearce, Robert Nimblett, Edward Holman, George Ligngrass.

These excepting W. R. Lee, John Glover, Jr., and Edward Archbold were all commissioned by the Provincial Congress, June 23, 1775.

William R. Lee soon after became Major, John Glover, Captain, and Edward Archbold, Adjutant, in the same regiment.

The uniform of the regiment consisted of a

blue round jacket and trousers, trimmed with leather buttons.

February 26, 1775. When Colonel Leslie landed his troops at Homan's Beach and Lovis Cove, the Marblehead regiment, composed as it was of industrious citizens, were scattered from Newtown to Peach's Point, but they were hastily mustered by their colonel, John Glover, and were soon ready for any exigency that might arise.

When Leslie's troops returned from Salem, Glover's Regiment was drawn up in line as they passed to the beach.

From this time on, the daily drill became longer and more exacting. The men who had previously been under the command of Colonel Azor Orne, Colonel Jacob Fowle and Colonel Jeremiah Lee, were now, (having seen the enemy) being drilled by Colonel John Glover, not for a holiday parade but to face a stubborn enemy in an open field; to stand a charge or to execute one; to take a fortification or to defend and hold one. They learned readily, and tenaciously retained what they learned. They had already learned and needed no lessons in the handling of oars and sails. June 21, 1775. Colonel John Glover with his regiment was ordered to join the army at Cambridge.

The next day, June 22, Colonel Glover marched his regiment from Marblehead to Cambridge and joined the Continental Army.

July 3, Washington took command and organized the American army.

The first order given was to Colonel Glover to be ready at a moment's notice to support General Folsom of New Hampshire, or, if Colonel Prescott should be attacked, to move to his support.\*

In the early autumn, Glover's Regiment was encamped in an enclosed pasture north of the colleges. While in this camp came that half-dramatic scrimmage between the Marblehead fishermen and the Virginia riflemen. It began by their bantering each other about their uniforms, for the fishermen wore reefing jackets and the riflemen were clothed in half Indian costume. From words they proceeded to blows. Washington hearing of the disturbance rushed into the midst of them, taking two riflemen, one in each hand,

\*See Appendix F.

#### 14 GENERAL JOHN GLOVER.

holding them out at arm's length, and shaking them, and ordered them to cease wasting their strength on their friends, and reserve it for their enemies. The disturbance was quelled.

September 2, 1775. Captain Nicholson Broughton, a captain in Glover's Regiment was commissioned captain of the armed schooner Hannah by General Washington, the first vessel in the American navy and the first captain's commission issued. September 5, Captain Broughton sailed from Beverly in the Hannah on his first cruise. Two days later he captured his first prize, the ship Unity, loaded with military stores and ammunition, which he carried into Cape Ann.

October 4, Colonel Glover with his regiment was ordered from Cambridge to Beverly (and marched that day,) that he might procure and superintend the fitting out of vessels for the navy.

October 15. Two vessels, the Lynch and the Franklin, were ready to be manned for service.

October 16. Captain Broughton received a commodore's commission and Captain John Selman and John Manly each a captain's commission and were ordered to the river Saint Lawrence to capture two British transports that were expected with munitions of war for Quebec. They sailed October 21, Captain Broughton in the Lynch and Selman in the Franklin.

It is said that Captains Broughton and Selman each drew his company up into line for inspection. The expedition was to be a perilous one. Neither of the captains wished to take with him a single man who had not in him the timber of which heroes are made. They passed up and down in front of the lines. The lines marched around them like the rim of a wheel around the hub. After a careful inspection, not one man was barred out. Each was both a sailor and a soldier. Captain Broughton mustered seventy men, Captain Selman sixty-five men.

October 21. The little fleet put to sea, to run the gauntlet of the British navy. It was like kingbirds among the vultures. The expedition was a success, but not in the way Washington had hoped. Broughton was three years ahead of the times. Four

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January 1, 1776. The old Marblehead Regiment by reorganization was made the Fourteenth Continental Regiment under Colonel John Glover; but the regiment was always better known as Glover's or the Marblehead Regiment.

March 17. Boston was evacuated by the British. Carrington, page 154, says: "The troops embarked in one hundred and twenty crowded transports for Halifax; were wind bound at Nantasket Roads for ten days. General Ward, with five thousand men, entered Boston followed on the 20th by Washington and his whole army.

April 4. Washington left for New York, leaving five regiments in Boston and vicinity.

May 17. Captain Mugford captured the powder ship Hope. Of his crew, twenty were volunteers from Glover's Regiment. Mugford was killed May 19, 1776. days after Broughton had sailed, Congress appointed a committee to devise means for capturing the two British transports.

October 28. The schooner Lee was ready to sail. Captain Manly had shipped his crew largely from Glover's Regiment, and that accounts in part for the daring and successful cruise in Massachusetts Bay, which was only a prelude to what followed. Manly was afterward in command of the frigates Hancock and Hague. He died in Boston, 1793.

November 25. Congress authorized privateering.

November 28. Congress adopted rules for the navy.

December 13. Congress resolved to build thirteen ships for the navy.

December 19. At the approach of British frigates Colonel Glover with his regiment was ordered to Marblehead, and then back again to Beverly to protect that place, which was thought to be in danger.

Previous to December 22, 1775, when the first action was taken by the Continental Congress towards appointing officers for the

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July 20. Colonel Glover and his regiment commenced their march from Beverly to New York. They arrived in New York, August 9, and joined General Sullivan's brigade. There were no public conveyances at that time. When troops moved from one place to another it was on foot and usually with as much baggage as they could carry.

August 16. Captain Fosdick, Adjutant of Glover's Regiment, and Captain Thomas took command of two fireships in the Hudson. Though they did not succeed in burning the two British war vessels, as they sought to do, they caused them to move down the river to their fleet, leaving the Hudson clear.

August 27, 1776. The battle of Long Island, took place. It was an unequal contest. Washington was hard pressed. He was outnumbered two to one. The coming on of night and a storm, brought him temporary relief. The British loss had been five officers killed, twenty-one wounded; fiftyeight non-commissioned officers and men killed, three hundred and sixteen wounded. The American loss according to British returns, in killed, wounded and prisoners, was

one thousand ninety-seven of whom one hundred and twenty-seven were Long Island militia.

August 28. Glover with his regiment was ordered to join Washington and crossed over to Long Island, arriving before noon, and took post at Wallabout Bay, on the left of the American army.

August 29. After a conference with Colonel Glover, Washington wrote General Heath: "We have many battalions from New Jersey which are coming over this evening to relieve those here. Order every flat bottomed boat and other craft fit for the transportation of troops down to New York as soon as possible."

Quartermaster Hughes was instructed "to impress every kind of craft on either side of New York that could be kept afloat that had oars or sails or could be furnished with them, and have them in East River by dark. Washington then called a council of war and laid before it his plan of retreat. It had rained in torrents and the wind had blown a gale from the northeast, all day long. Heath and Hughes acted promptly so that crafts of every kind arrived at Brooklyn just before dark. Colonel Glover's Regiment, which had already been detailed to that duty. took possession of the boats to act as seamen. The evacuation of Long Island immediately commenced. The wind and the tide were so violent that even they could not set a single close-reefed sail. Thole-pins were put in place, improvised or otherwise. Silently, with muffled oars, with long pulls and strong pulls, for more than three hours, back and forth they urged their boats. There was haste and speed but no confusion. At midnight, the wind changed to the south, the tide had turned, the water became smooth, sails were set, the boats were loaded to the "gunnels," no moment of time was lost. Everything that could be moved by sail or oar was in motion. The work progressed rapidly. The men and munitions were all safely landed in New York. A thick fog hung over Long Island and the bay while it was clear on the New York side.

The perfect success of the evacuation of Long Island by the Continental Army on the morning of the 30th of August, 1776,

was due to the sailor-soldiers of Glover's Regiment. There was no pulling and hauling for precedence, but the pulling and hauling was all for the main chance, the successful evacuation. Under their skilful management the whole was accomplished in less than thirteen hours. The American army was saved. The ten British frigates and twice as many gunboats and sloops-of-war, that moved up the bay that day, would have made the evacuation impossible, and Washington and his army would have been lost to the Revolution.

September 4, 1776. Colonel Glover was put in command of Clinton's Brigade and William R. Lee was appointed Brigadier Major.

September 13. Colonel Glover superintended the evacuation of New York City, and with his brigade between 9 o'clock in the evening and sunrise the next morning removed five hundred sick to improvised hospitals on the Jersey shore. The tents and light baggage he sent by wagons to Kingsbridge, but the heavy baggage was taken to the wharf and carried up the river by boat. Here again Glover's Regiment found and performed a special service.

September 14. At 9 o'clock in the evening, after thirty-six hours of hard and continuous labor and the evacuation nearly completed. Colonel Glover received orders to march his brigade to Harlem, eight miles distant and join General McDougall. Before reaching Harlem, he received orders to continue his march to Kingsbridge, seven miles farther on. Arriving there on the morning of the 15th they began to unstrap their knapsacks; while thus engaged, Glover received express orders to return to Harlem and without stopping for rest or refreshments they took up the line of march to return to Harlem. General Howe had moved up East 'River and landed near Kip's Bay.

The Americans under Washington at the approach of the British were panic stricken, broke ranks and fled. No efforts of Washington could bring them into line or stay their flight. A drawn sword or pistol presented to the head was unavailing. They continued their flight toward Kingsbridge, until they met Glover and his brigade;

their fearless, orderly and soldierly march reassured them. They halted, they fell into the ranks and marched back with him. General Glover brought them all into line on a hill ready to meet the British. Washington would not trust men so recently in panic to face the enemy that day, and ordered them to fall back.

The show of strength made a delay on the part of the British that Putnam improved by removing his thirty-five hundred men from New York City, thus completing the evacuation. He had been left there when Glover was ordered to Harlem.

Glover's Brigade had marched twentythree miles that day without rest or refreshment after two days and two nights of continuous labor. Glover wrote: "We fell back about three miles towards Dobbs Ferry without food or drink, and camped for the night with nothing but the earth under us and nothing but the heavens over us."

September 28. General Lee ordered his division to move to White Plains by the way of Dobbs Ferry. By his urgent advice New York Island had been evacuated by the

Americans and the troops moved up the river to retard the movements of the British.

October 16. Glover's brigade (in Lee's division) was on the East Chester Road near Pelham to watch the enemy.

## PELL'S POINT.

Early in the morning of October 18th, General Glover with his spy-glass went out upon a hill-top near Hutchinson River to scan Long Island Sound and the coast, to know if the enemy was in sight. To his surprise he saw a fleet of British ships off Pell's Point disembarking troops and moving towards the Point. Glover was alone in command of his brigade with no reënforcements or support to fall back upon. Glover, in a letter written soon after this said: "I would have given a thousand worlds to have had some experienced general at hand to tell me what to do. He immediately sent William R. Lee to General Samuel Lee, three miles distant. for orders. But there was no time to be lost. He quickly made his plans and prepared to meet the enemy. Glover's Brigade at this time consisted of

four regiments: the Fourteenth Continental (the Marblehead Regiment of which he was Colonel) one hundred and seventy-nine men fit for duty; Thirteenth Regiment, Colonel Joseph Read, two hundred and twenty-six men. (Read was born in Uxbridge, March 6, 1731): Third Regiment, Colonel William Shepard, two hundred and four men, (Shepard was born in Westfield, December 1, 1737. Died, November 16, 1817); Twenty-Sixth Regiment, Colonel Loammi Baldwin, two hundred and thirty-four men, (Baldwin, born in Woburn, January 21, 1745. Died, October 20, 1807. He was the propagator of the Baldwin apple.)

General Glover, with his brigade of four Massachusetts regiments, in all, eight hundred and forty-three men, fit for service, met General Howe and his army of over four thousand British regulars at Glover's Rock, Pell's Point. The road leading from Pelham to Pell's Point had, for a fence, on each side, at this place, a heavy stone wall. General Glover, with great skill, placed his men where they would do the best service, taking every advantage offered of position and defense. He placed Colonel Read on the right of the road, near the great rock, (since known as Glover's Rock,) with the stone wall for breast-works. A little farther back, on the left of the road, he placed Colonel Shepard, and still farther back on the right, Colonel Baldwin, each behind the stone wall. On the hill in the rear, where he had planted his three guns, he posted the Marblehead Regiment. Then Glover with forty men moved down the road to meet the British. After a little skirmish with their advance guard, which was guickly reënforced, he fell slowly back until the enemy were within the range of Read's guns; when he and his men each rose from behind the wall, took aim and poured a terrible raking fire into the ranks of the advancing enemy, from which, after a few rounds, they recoiled and fell back. Being reënforced, the enemy again moved forward but to meet Read's guns as before. Read held them until he had fired four rounds, then it was his turn to retreat and he fell back. The British pushed forward, but only to meet the raking fire from Shepard's Regiment on the

left. Shepard held them for an hour and then retreated. The British thought they then had a free field and moved forward with a quickened step, but were soon brought to a halt by the guns of Baldwin's Regiment on the right that had been reënforced by Read. A severe battle followed, night was coming on, Glover fell slowly back to the hill where his guns were stationed. The British fell back to the road to New Rochelle, went into camp and waited until the 26th instance for reënforcements.

General Carrington, in his account of this battle, page 235, said: "On the 17th instant, the First, Second and Sixth Brigades and the Third Hessian Battalion, with General Howe, were transferred from Flushing to Pell's Point at the mouth of Hutchinson River. When they advanced toward New Rochelle, Colonel Glover with his regiment made so persistent a resistance with a force of seven hundred and fifty men behind a stone wall as to check the advance guard until it was strongly reënforced, and earned for himself honorable mention in orders."

General Glover in a letter to his mother,



written the next day after the battle, said: "Our loss yesterday was seven killed and thirteen wounded, the enemy's loss, as near as I can learn was between two hundred and three hundred. \*Abbatt of Pelham, who has made a special study of this battle, and of the English and German records (the Hessians reported to their home government) said: "The British loss at Pell's Point was over eight hundred men; Glover's loss was eight killed and thirteen wounded."

October 19. Glover and his brigade received in General Orders thanks from General Lee; and on the 21st, in General Orders thanks from General Washington, as follows:

MILE SQUARE, October 19, 1776.

General Lee returns his warmest thanks to Colonel Glover and the brigade under his command, not only for their gallant behavior yesterday, but for their prudent, cool, orderly and soldierlike conduct in all respects. He assures these brave men that he shall omit no opportunity of showing his gratitude. All of the wounded to be immediately carried to Volantine's Hill, at the second liberty pole, where surgeons should repair to dress

\*See Appendix A and B.

them; they are afterwards to be forwarded to Fort Washington."

HEADOUARTERS, October 21, 1776. The hurried situation of the Gen. the two last days having prevented him from paying that attention to Colonel Glover and the officers and soldiers who were with him in the skirmish on Friday last that their and good behavior deserved, he merit flatters himself that his thanks, though delaved will nevertheless be acceptable to them, as they are offered with great sincerity and cordiality; at the same time, he hopes that every other part of the army will do their duty with bravery and zeal whenever called upon, and neither dangers nor difficulties nor hardships will discourage soldiers engaged in the cause of Liberty and while we are contending for all that freemen hold dear and valuable.

October 20, 1776. General Glover impressed fifteen wagons into the service and sent his brigade from Mile Square to East Chester and brought away two hundred barrels of pork and flour from so near the British camp that they could hear music and talking within.

October 23. Glover attacked a party of

Hessians of whom twelve were killed and three taken prisioners.

October 25. Lee's divisions marched from Kingsbridge to White Plains. The baggage and military stores were entrusted to Glover's Brigade. All arrived safely.

October 28. General Glover and his brigade were in the battle of White Plains. When the British moved on him they outnumbered him four to one.

McDougall's Division was posted on Chatterton's Hill to cover the march. The British attacked and pressed him so hard he was obliged to withdraw.

Glover had been posted on a hill nearby, covering the road to Albany and New England. The British then moved on Glover. He had three brass guns, one twenty-four,one six- and one three-pounder, and three iron twelve-pounders.

The British approached in four columns. Glover reserved his fire until they were in the valley, and then poured into them his well-aimed shot which threw them into such confusion that they were compelled to retreat. They withdrew and went into camp.

The British loss was twenty-eight killed and one hundred and twenty-seven wounded; Glover's loss, none.

Another account: "Glover's Brigade was stationed on a hill near McDougall, the British with twelve thousand men marched to the hill where Glover was awaiting them. Twice Glover repulsed them, then they retreated."

October 29. Glover was then stationed at North Castle with Lee's Division, and there remained until the last of November when Lee's Division, including Glover's Brigade, was ordered to join Washington, who was then retreating across New Jersey.

December 10. Lee's Division under Mc-Dougall, (Lee having been captured five days before) consisting of three thousand men, moved to join Washington at the Delaware. They joined him about the 15th instance.

December 25. Washington with his troops and military stores was on the banks of the Delaware; his boats were ready for crossing. But to cross seemed impossible. The river was full to the brink. Great masses of floating ice were constantly rush-

ing by. The case was urgent. Washington called for volunteers to man the boats for crossing, and Glover's Regiment, and they alone, stepped to the front. The boats were put in their charge. Carrington said: "Glover, the man of Marblehead, a hero of the Long Island Retreat, was there." An army of eight thousand men, with the munitions of war were to be placed on the opposite bank of the river. That night Washington and his entire army were ferried safely It was effected before daybreak, across. in the darkness, through snow, sleet and floating ice. \*Stryker, page 134, said: "Had not Colonel John Glover's splendid regiment of seafaring men from Marblehead, Mass., lent willing and skilful hand, as he had promised they would, the expedition would no doubt have failed "

December 26. In the Battle of Trenton, Glover's Brigade was with General Sullivan's right wing. His regiment at that time consisted of thirty commissioned officers, one hundred and forty-seven enlisted men, with two hundred and nineteen sick or on extra

\*See Appendix C.

duty. \*Glover was frequently called upon for men for special service.

January 1, 1777. William R. Lee was commissioned Colonel and returned to Massachusetts to organize the Twenty-First Continental Regiment. Many of the officers and men of this new regiment were from Marblehead.

February 23. Congress appointed Colonel John Glover Brigadier General. He joined Washington at Peekskill and took command of his brigade. On receipt of Washington's letter urging him so to do, on April 26, he accepted the Brigadier's Commission and June 15th took command under Putnam.

June. Generals McDougall, Parsons and Glover were sent from near Kingsbridge to Middlebrook.

June 15. General Glover and his brigade are at Peekskill and camped there until the 21st instance. (His troops "without coats, breeches, stockings or shoes.")

July 27. General Glover with his brigade sailed from Peekskill to Saratoga.

August 3. They marched to Stillwater.

\*See Appendix D.

August 19. The army retreated to Van Schaick's Island. General Gates then took command of the army, including Glover's Brigade, and moved up the river to Bemis Heights.

The following extract from a letter written at this time to Jonathan Glover and Azor Orne will help us to know Glover as a man as well as a soldier:

VAN SCHAICK'S ISLAND, September 5, 1777. DEAR SIRS:— . . . . . . . Our troops are healthy and in good spirits, but poorly shod and clothed and many without blankets. The Honorable Brigadier General Palmer and Doctor Taylor are witnesses of this, as they have had an opportunity of seeing for themselves.

I should have been happy to see more of my friends with them, particularly Messrs. Glover, Orne and Gerry, who, (if I mistake not,) gave me some encouragement when I left them, but being engaged in the Public Service has prevented. I have too much charity to suppose private interest, or the fear of a little fatigue has kept them back. When matters look gloomy it has a fine effect, (it gives a spring and animates our spirits,) to have our friends to look at, and consult with; at the same time they would have an

opportunity of seeing for themselves as well as seeing the pleasure we enjoy in camp life; but more of this the next Tuesday night's club, at a meeting when all of the members are present, a good fire, pipes, tobacco, wine and good punch—that's the place to talk matters over, not in this house made of hemp, (I have quitted my log house mentioned in my last) the walls and roof of which are so thin they need no windows, nor do they obstruct the rays of light, or the rain passing through in the least.

I acknowledge the receipt of Colonel Glover's letter from Wells the only one received since I left Peekskill, notwithstanding a weekly Post comes from Boston to this place. The Phæton therein mentioned I beg he would make use of as freely as if it was his own; at present, don't incline to sell it, but should he not see me again, my desire is that he may have it, paying the value to my wife, for her and the children's support.

My compliments to your good ladies and families, and my old friends, the Tuesday's club, including Reverend Messrs. Whitwell and Story, one of whom I expected and should have been happy to have had as a Chaplain to my brigade, for want of which must do my own preaching. They possibly can do more good at home. I'm sure they will not be so much exposed and will live better. Adieu, my Dear Sir, and believe me to be sincerely your friend and most Obe'd Servt.

JOHN GLOVER.

To Messrs. Jonathan Glover and Azor Orne, Esqrs.

September 19, 1777. General Glover's Brigade was in the left wing of the army when a severe battle took place, under the immediate command of General Gates, the Americans holding their ground against the British under Burgoyne when night closed the fierce struggle.

September 29, 1777. Glover wrote: "I ordered one hundred men from my brigade to take off a pickett of about sixty of the enemy, who were posted about half a mile from me, at the same time ordered a covering party of two hundred to support them. This being the first enterprise of this kind, and as it was proposed by me, I was very anxious for its success. I therefore went myself. . . When I made the proper disposition for the attack, they went on like so many tigers, bidding defiance to musket balls and bayonets. Drove the enemy, killed three, and wounded a great number more,

took one prisoner, eight packs, eight blankets, two guns, one sword and many other articles of plunder without any loss on our side."

October 7. Another general engagement took place. A part of Glover's brigade was held in reserve, but the Marblehead Regiment was under Arnold, and in the thickest of the fight. The camp was attacked and captured. It was one of the hardest fought battles of the war. General Glover had three horses shot from under him during the engagement. Burgoyne was compelled to retreat towards Fort Edward.

October 11, 1777. General Gates ordered an attack on Burgovne's works, while, (as he had been led by rumors to believe) he was weakened by the absence of a part of his army. Burgoyne knowing of this mistake, prepared to make the most of it. At daybreak the troops began to move. Nixon had already crossed the Creek, Glover close behind, had entered the water, when he saw a British soldier, who claimed to be a de-Glover arrested and examined him. serter. On questioning him in regard to Burgoyne's army, his answers were not satisfactory.

Glover told him, "If you are found attempting to deceive me, you shall be hung in half an hour, but if you speak nothing but the truth you shall have good usage." Then he said Burgoyne's full force was with him, well entrenched and in good position. Glover, though the junior officer to Nixon, sent off to him to re-cross the creek; and at the same time sent his aid-de-camp on horseback with the deserter behind him to General Gates, who examined the soldier and immediately countermanded his orders of attack, and began to make his plans to prevent the escape of Burgoyne. By Glover's timely discovery of the true condition of the enemy, the American army was saved from disaster, and the enemy caught in a trap.

October 13, 1777. Burgoyne, with five thousand seven hundred and sixty-three men, surrendered — a bloodless victory ! Glover,\* with his brigade, was appointed to escort the prisoners of war to Boston.

November 7. Burgoyne's army under Glover's escort arrived in Cambridge. Colonel William R. Lee, with his new regiment,

\*See Appendix E.

was ordered to form a part of the guard.

November 9. Hamilton writes from New Jersey: "Glover and Patterson are on their way down."

December. General Glover was president and Colonel William R. Lee a member of the court martial for the trial of Colonel Henley at Cambridge.

January to May, 1778. Glover's Regiment was at Valley Forge and suffered all of the hardships of that camp.

May 7. Came the welcome news of the French alliance. A grand jubilee was held at Valley Forge.

June 28. General Glover again joined the army, having finished the business assigned him by General Gates, and was placed in command of Fort Arnold near West Point. The Marblehead Regiment, with others, was sent under Lafayette to Providence to reenforce General Sullivan. General Glover joined his brigade while on their way. On his arrival, General Sullivan sent Glover to recruit two hundred sailors for fifteen days' service.

August 10. Glover having secured in

Boston, Salem and Marblehead, the two hundred sailors, returned to Providence. Colonel William R. Lee, having resigned, relinquished his command to attend to private affairs that demanded attention.

August 14. Sullivan moved to Quaker Hill near Newport. Though disappointed in the French fleet that had promised their support, and, instead, had sailed away, he prepared to move on the city, then occupied by the British.

August 15. Glover's Brigade was on the left of the line under Bigelow, and Glover was on Sullivan's staff.

August 20. The time of enlistment of many men having expired, they were urged by Sullivan to continue their service a few days longer. Many left, but the Marblehead and Salem men remained.

Glover, with the other generals, remonstrated against the action of the French.

August 28, 1778. The American forces removed from Quaker Hill to Bitt's Hill and were there attacked by the British. In the advance skirmishing, the American left was reënforced by Glover's Brigade. The fight

was severe. The loss was considerable on each side. The British were repulsed.

August 29. A retreat was determined upon by a council of war. "The experience and good judgment of General Glover was conspicuous on this occasion, as on the retreat from Long Island in 1776." "At Quaker Hill, \*General Glover had distinguished himself by a valiant defense."

As night came on, Glover's Regiment took command of the flat-boats, and before daylight the next morning, had safely ferried across the Narragansett to the main land, the entire army, Sullivan, Greene and Lafayette, their divisions and munitions of war. Not a man or an article was left behind.

On the morning of the 30th, one hundred sail of British vessels appeared in sight, bringing General Clinton's army to the rescue of the garrison.

February, 1779. Glover was granted a furlough and returned to Marblehead.

June 20. Glover, with his brigade, marched from Providence to join the main army, then in the Hudson valley.

\*Carrington, Page 455.

July 23. Glover was ordered to Ridgefield to watch and communicate the movements of the enemy.

November 25. Glover was at "Camp Peeks Kill" with his brigade in the field; "eight hundred men without shoes or stockings." The whole army, except Glover's and Nixon's Brigades, had gone into winter camp, but "they were enjoying the sweets of a winter campaign."

Summer, 1780. Glover and his brigade were at West Point.

September 29. Glover was a member of the court that sentenced Major André.

October 2. When Major André was executed, Glover was officer of the day.

Winter, 1780-1. Glover and his brigade were at West Point, and was left with other troops to protect the Hudson Highlands, when Washington and the main army went to Virginia.

October 19, 1781. Lord Cornwallis surrendered. Great rejoicing.

We cannot fully appreciate or understand the feeling of the men and women of America on the receipt of the news of the surrender of

Cornwallis. The feeling of anxiety and suspense, long continued, had been strained to the utmost. Strong men cried like children for joy, and wives and mothers walked about dazed, because the strain of suspense was ended. A single instance will serve to illustrate it:

On the Sunday after October 19, 1781, in the southern part of this state, a congregation had gathered in the village church for public worship. The good old parson was in the midst of his sermon when the sound of a galloping horse was heard rapidly approaching the meeting-house. The tithingman started for the door to investigate its meaning. As he reached the door, a horse, all flecked with foam, was drawn in before him, and the tall, lithe horseman brushed by him and walked hurriedly up the aisle, and up the pulpit stairs. After a short conference with the minister, he turned, walked rapidly out again, leaped into his saddle and galloped away.

The minister, through the open window, watched him till he disappeared and the sound of his horse's hoofs had died away in the distance. The good man then turned to his audience, composed of women, old men and children, and said: "My friends, this courier brings the grand, the glorious tidings that Lord Cornwallis, on the 10th instant. surrendered to General Washington and the Continentals. Now, if we were not in the Lord's house, on the Lord's day, I would call for three rousing cheers for Washington and the Continental army. But we are in the Lord's house, and it is the Lord's day." He hesitated a moment. His patriotism began to boil, and raising himself to his full height, he said: "Brethren and sisters, though we are in the Lord's house and on the Lord's day, what would be the harm in just going through the motions?" He grasped his manuscript, raised it above his head, and three times waved it in the air. His congregation was already on its feet, and three times a wave of white handkerchiefs and red bandannas rolled across the meeting-house. And then all was quiet. They expected the minister to go on with his sermon. But he could not. He did not know where he left off. and said. "Now let us sing, 'Praise God

from whom all blessings flow.'" When that was sung, he pronounced the benediction. There were many who could not leave their seats; they sat and cried for joy.

The British were in possession of New York City, and Washington, as he always had done, saw the importance of holding the Hudson valley, and carefully guarded every strategic point, from Harlem to Lake Champlain. Glover and his brigade were still in the Highlands near West Point.

November 12, 1781. Glover was in command of a foraging expedition, and with his brigade, received the thanks of General Heath.

Spring of 1782. Glover was ordered to Massachusetts to take charge of mustering and forwarding recruits.

July, 1782. General Glover reluctantly retired from the army on account of failing health and was placed on half-pay by Congress. Congress would gladly have been just, if not generous, to all of the patriot army, but the poverty of the treasury prevented.

Glover had put himself and his fortune

into the Revolution. His vitality was nearly exhausted. His fortune was absorbed. At the close of the war, he returned to his home broken in health but uncomplaining. He partitioned off a corner of his sittingroom for a workshop, and cobbled shoes for a livelihood.

Five children were still dependent upon him. His oldest son had been a captain in his regiment, and, though young, had proved himself worthy of the trust. His youngest son was nine years old. Glover's wife had died November 13, 1778, while his brigade was in Rhode Island, after the battle of Newport.

He was elected Representative to the Massachusetts Legislature in 1788 and in 1789; a Selectman in 1787, 1788, 1789, 1790, 1791 and 1792.

January 30, 1797. General John Glover died in Marblehead, and was buried in the Old Burial Ground, aged 64 years, 2 months, 25 days.

## APPENDIX.

The two following letters from American Archives, Fifth Series, Volume II.

### Mile Square, October 22, 1776.

You no doubt heard the enemy landed all their army on Frog's Point, the 11th instant, leaving only twelve hundred men in York, and there remained until the 18th, which was Friday. I arose early in the morning and went on the hill with my glass, and discovered a number of ships in the Sound, under way; in a short time saw the boats, upwards of two hundred sail, all manned and formed in four grand divisions. I immediately sent off Major Lee express to General Lee, who was about three miles distant, and without waiting his orders, turned out the brigade I have the honor to command, and very luckily for us I did, as it turned out afterwards, the enemy having stole a march one and a half miles on us. I marched down to oppose their landing, with about seven hundred and fifty men, and three field pieces, but had not gone more than half the distance, before I met their advance guard, about thirty men; upon which I detached a captain's guard of forty men to meet them, while I could dispose of the main body to advantage. This plan succeeded very well as you will hereafter see. The enemy had the advantage of us, being posted on an eminence which commanded the ground we had to march over. However, I did the best I could, and disposed of my little party to the best of my judgment; Colonel Reed's on the left of the road; Colonel Shepard's in the rear, and to the right of him.

А

Colonel Baldwin's in the rear and on the right of Shepards, my own regiment, commanded by Captain Courtis, (Col. Johonnot being sick and Major Lee being Brigade Major), bringing up the rear with three field-pieces of artillery. Thus disposed of, I rode forward-(oh! the anxiety of mind I was then in for the fate of the day,-the lives of seven hundred and fifty men immediately at hazard, and under God their preservation entirely depended on their being well disposed of; besides this, my country, my honor, my own life, and everything that was dear, appeared at that critical moment to be at stake. I would have given a thousand worlds to have had General Lee, or some other experienced officer present to direct, or at least to approve of what I had done-looking around, but could see none, they all being three miles from me, and the action came on so sudden it was out of their power to be with me) to the advance guard, and ordered them to advance, who did, within fifty yards, and received their fire without the loss of a man: we returned it, and fell four of them, and kept the ground till we exchanged five rounds.

Their body being much larger than mine, and having two men killed and several wounded, which weakened my party, the enemy pushing forward, not more than thirty yards distant. I ordered a retreat, which was masterly well done by the captain who commanded the party.

The enemy gave a shout and advanced, Colonel Reed's laying under cover of a stone wall undiscovered till they came within thirty yards, then rose up and gave them the whole charge; the enemy broke and retreated for the main body to come up. In this situation we remained about an hour and a half, when they appeared about four thousand, with seven pieces of artillery; we kept our post under cover of the stone wall before mentioned, till they came within fifty yards of us; rose up and gave the whole charge of the battalion, they halted, and returned the fire with showers of musketry and cannon balls. We exchanged seven rounds at this post, retreated and formed in the rear of Colonel Shepard and on his left; they then

shouted and pushed on till they came on Shepard, posted behind a fine double stone wall: he rose up and fired by grand divisions, by which he kept up a constant fire, and maintained his post till he exchanged seventeen rounds with them, and caused them to retreat several times, once in particular so far that a soldier of Colonel Shepard's leaped over the wall and took a hat and canteen off of a captain that lay dead on the ground they retreated from. However, their body being so much larger than ours, we were for the preservation of the men forced to retreat, and formed in the rear of Baldwin's Regiment: they then came up to Baldwin's, but the ground being much in their favour, and their heavy train of artillery, we could do but little before we retreated to the bottom of the hill, and had to pass through a run of water, (the bridge I had taken up before) and then marched up a hill the opposite side of the creek, where I left my artillery; the ground being rough and much broken, I was afraid to risk it over. The enemy halted and played away their artillery at us and we at them, till night, without any damage on our side, and but very little on their's. At dark we came off, and marched to Dobb's Ferry, after fighting all day without victuals or drink, laying as a picket all night, the heavens over us, and the earth under us, which was all we had, having left our baggage at the old encampment, we left in the morning. The next morning marched over to Mile Square. I had eight men killed and thirteen wounded, among which was Colonel Shepard, a brave officer.

Sunday, General Lee sent for and informed me there were two hundred barrels of pork and flour at East Chester, if the enemy had not taken it, would be glad if I would think of some way to bring it off. I sent out and pressed fifteen wagons, and at night turned out the whole brigade, and went down so nigh the enemy, we heard their musick and talk very plain and brought off the whole.

Wednesday, sent out a scouting party, principally from my own regiment, who met with a party of Hessians, and attacked them, killed twelve and took three prisoners. One of the slain was an officer of rank, on horseback; the horse was taken and brought off. We had one man mortally wounded of Colonel Baldwin's regiment.

"Sunday, the enemy struck their tents. and were on a march in two columns, one to the right and the other to the left, towards the North River. General Lee immediately gave orders for his division, which consisted of eight thousand men, to march for North Castle, to take the ground to the eastward and north of them, about fourteen miles distant. We had not marched more than three miles, before we saw the right column advancing in a cross road to cut us off. not more than three-quarters of a mile distant; this being our situation, eight thousand men on the road with their baggage, artillery and one hundred and fifty wagons filled the road for four miles. We then turned off, and marched by Dobb's Ferry road, and got into White Plains about ten o'clock Monday morning, after being out all night. We left General McDougall's brigade posted on a height between the enemy and us, to cover our march. About twelve o'clock they attacked him with a heavy column, supported with twelve pieces of artillery, who pressed him so hard, he was obliged to retreat, having twenty men killed and about forty wounded, and wholly from their artillery.

"I am posted on a mountain, commanding the roads to Albany and New England; the enemy on one opposite, about one mile distant. We expect an attack every moment. I don't care how soon, as I am very certain, with the blessing of God, we shall give them a drubbing. Where you will hear from me next is very uncertain."

Extract of a letter from "Fort Lee" dated October 19, 1776.

Yesterday's affair was honourable to us. Three regiments, Glover's, Reed's and Shepard's of Massachusetts, under Colonel Glover who commanded the brigade, were advanced under cover to receive the enemy, marching out towards the country. Colonel

В

Shepard was well covered under a wall and at thirty or forty yards gave their grenadiers and infantry an unexpected heavy fire, then a second and third, which broke the enemy so much that they ran away as fast as they could in confusion.

They returned with field-pieces and outflanked our party, which occasioned our people to retreat to a short distance, where they rallied well and kept their ground against their cannonade and numbers. Our men behaved with remarkable spirit and coolness, and, I think, are in a good way to do great things. We lost a few, thirty or forty killed and wounded.

We lost a few, thirty or forty killed and wounded. Two deserters from the enemy say they lost one thousand, but really I have the best opinions to believe they lost one hundred and fifty or upwards, as our men fired with great coolness at a good distance. They are trying to surround us. It won't be easy; and I am mistaken if they don't meet some severe rubbers.

С

The following is an extract from a speech of General Knox in the Massachusetts Legislature:

Sirs: I wish the members of this body knew the people of Marblehead as well as I do,—I could wish that they had stood on the banks of the Delaware River in 1776 in that bitter night, when the commander in chief had drawn up his little army to cross it, and had seen the powerful current bearing onward the floating masses of ice, which threatened destruction to whosoever should venture upon its bosom. I wish that when this occurrence threatened to defeat the enterprise, they could have heard that distinguished warrior demand 'Who will lead us on?' and seen the men of Marblehead, and Marblehead alone, stand forward to lead the army along the perilous path to unfading glories and honors in the achievements of Trenton. There, sir, went the fishermen of Marblehead, alike at home upon land or water, alike ardent, patriotic and unflinching, whenever they unfurled the flag of the country.

## D

The following letter gives an example of the special service to which the Marblehead regiment was called.

Peekskill, 23d July, 1777.

I this day received orders from his Excellency, General Washington, to reënforce General Schuyler with my brigade. You will therefore please release the party I sent you the other day to man the ships, which consists of 2 sub'ns, 2 serg'ts, 2 corp's and 34 men. Your compliance herewith will much oblige yours, etc.

To Gen. Geo. Clinton.

#### Е

ALBANY, 22 October, 1777.

JOHN GLOVER, B. GEN.

Sir: This will inform your Honour, that I have sent one division of the prisoners, consisting of two thousand four hundred and forty-two British troops by Northampton, the other by the way of Springfield, consisting of two thousand one hundred and ninetyeight foreign troops. I shall come on to-morrow with General Burgoyne and expect to be in Worcester in ten days, where I shall be happy to meet your Honour's orders. I have endeavored to collect provisions to serve them to Worcester; you will please to order on some to meet me at that place. I am with respect,

Your Honour's Most Obed't. Set.,

John Glover.

P. S. The number of prisoners, drivers of wagons bat-horsemen and the guards are at least six thousand. I am put to great difficulty to find provisions for them. To the Hon'ble Jer'h Powell.

### F

#### HEADQUARTERS CAMBRIDGE,

July 3d, 1775.

By his Excellency, General Washington, dated 4 o'clock, P.M., it is ordered that Colonel Glover's Regiment be ready this evening, with all their accoutrements, to march at a minute's warning to support

General Folsom of the New Hampshire forces, in case his lines should be attacked. It is also ordered that Colonel Prescott's Regiment equip themselves to march this evening and take possession of the woods leading to Lechmere's Point, and in case of an attack there, Colonel Glover's Regiment to march immediately to their support.

In the year 1772 the tonage of Marblehead vessels was more than twelve thousand tons. In the year 1780, the tonage was only one thousand and nine.

In 1772 there were one thousand two hundred and three voters in town, in 1780 there were only five hundred and forty-four.

At the close of the war there were in Marblehead four hundred and forty-eight widows and nine hundred and sixty-six fatherless children.

# GLOVER'S ROCK.

In this time of historic reminiscence every Marbleheader will be glad to recall the heroic deeds that made the nation's birthday a day to celebrate, and especially, if those deeds were done by their own kith and kin. And they have a kindly feeling towards any who join them in honoring those they love to honor.

The Bronx Chapter, Mount Vernon, New York, Daughters of the American Revolution, on the one hundred and twenty-fifth anniversary of the battle of Pell's Point, unveiled a fine bronze tablet that they had placed on the face of that great boulder to commemorate the heroic deeds of Glover and his little brigade on that eventful October 18, 1776.

The tablet is three feet six inches long by three feet wide, and bears the following inscription in large clear-cut letters:

### GLOVER'S ROCK.

IN MEMORY OF THE 550 PATRIOTS WHO, LED BY COL. JOHN GLOVER, HELD GENERAL HOWE'S ARMY IN CHECK AT THE BATTLE OF PELL'S POINT, OCTOBER 18, 1776, THUS AIDING WASHINGTON IN HIS RETREAT TO WHITE PLAINS

Fame is the perfume of heroic deeds.

ERECTED BY BRONX CHAPTER OF MOUNT VERNON, N. Y., DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION OCTOBER 18, 1901. The local papers, in their report in relation to the unveiling of the tablet, made the following statements:

"The occasion was the climax and crown of a year and a half of preparation and effort on the part of the chapter. Through their efforts and the generosity of friends, the desire of the chapter to mark the spot of this little known, but important battle, has at last been happily fulfilled.

"It is a beautiful site in Pelham Bay Park. The unveiling was in the afternoon, under glowing October skies, and amid a large number of interested people. Opposite the huge boulder, known as Glover's Rock, a grand stand was erected for the chapter and guests of honor.

"The stand was beautifully draped with national colors and surrounded as it was with numerous carriages filled with an interested audience, faced by a chorus of fifty public school children, standing close beside the historic boulder, made a picture long to be remembered.

"The exercises opened with a chorus entitled "America for Freedom," by the school children, followed by prayer of dedication by Rev. O. R. Lovejoy. The Regent then introduced the speaker of the day, Mr. Edward Hageman Hall of New York City.

"Mr. Hall's address was an eloquent plea for memorials of the kind just erected by the Bronx Chapter. He urged silent, but impressive effect upon observers, both old and young, of such witnesses of glorious deeds of the past, and pleaded for a reverent and discriminating memory of the annals of our country as one of the best guides to future conduct.

"Mr. Hall was listened to with closest attention and received hearty applause. The chorus then sang "America," after which the Regent, Mrs. Sherman, dedicated the tablet in a short address, glowing with patriotism, and paying a graceful and appreciative tribute to Mr. William Abbatt, the historian, to whom the chapter owes so much.

"At the close of Mrs. Sherman's speech, the tablet was unveiled by Marjorie Sherman and Donald R. Baker.

